

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES  
Individual Inventory Form

Resource # OL-316  
Oldham County

1. Name of Resource: Rush-Greens House

2. Original Owner: J. W. Rush

3. Other Names: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Prehistoric Site \_\_\_\_\_ Building  Object \_\_\_\_\_  
Historic Site \_\_\_\_\_ Structure \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. Location: 6901 La Grange Road, Pewee Valley (northwest of La Grange Road and railroad tracks)

6. Owner's Name: William and Ann Rimmel [P]

7. Owner's Address: Box 434, Pewee Valley, Ky. 40056

8. Evaluation: [N]

9. Recognition & Date:  
Nat. Landmark \_\_\_\_\_ Local Landmark \_\_\_\_\_  
Nat. Register \_\_\_\_\_ HABS/HAER \_\_\_\_\_  
Highway Marker \_\_\_\_\_ KY Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
KY Landmark Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

10. N.R. Status & Date: EK, August, 1989

11. N.R. Group:  
District Name: Waldridge Ave - [ ]  
Mult. Resource Area: La Grange Road [ ]  
Thematic Name: Historic District [ ]

12. Historical Theme:  
Primary: Suburban Development [300]  
Secondary: Architecture [030]  
Other: [ ]

13. Statement of Significance: Important for documenting several different periods of residential development in Pewee Valley. Architecturally significant as an example of a house built as a summer residence. [A4C]

14. History: Earliest portion of house thought to have been built by J. W. Rush, c. 1871. Property purchased in 1897 by Mary and Charles Greens who probably built large addition to house. Greens (1836-1927), co-owner of a Louisville wholesale grocery business used the property as a summer residence until 1911. It changed hands many times after that.

15. Source of historical information and/or contact person: Deed Search. Call of the Pewee. article.

16. Date:  
Original Building c. 1871 [6]  
Addition c. 1900 [4]

17. Style: Victorian Vernacular. [4V]

18. Architect/Builder: Unknown

19. No. of Stories: Two story plus attic [2.0]

20. Original Floor Plan: Unknown [UN]

21. Single Pile \_\_\_\_\_ Double Pile \_\_\_\_\_ N.A. \_\_\_\_\_

22. Roof Form & Material: Gable-raised beam metal Original   
Not Original \_\_\_\_\_

23. Structural Material: Wood frame - Sawn [W]

24. Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_ [W]

Wood weatherboard Wood-patterned [W]

25. Foundation Material: Fieldstone. [S]

26. Major Alterations: Moved/Rebuilt \_\_\_\_\_ None \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Additions

27. Special Features: Decorative Shingework bargeboard trim.

28. Outbuildings: 2 story carriage house - C  
Concrete block barn - NC. [T]

29. Original Function: Single dwelling [OIA]

30. Present Use: Single dwelling [OIA]

31. Condition: Poor [P]

32. Endangered: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

33. Attach Photos:  
Roll: \_\_\_\_\_ Photo Nos: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Slides: \_\_\_\_\_  
4 # 0, 17, 19, 20



34. Prepared by: Candlyn Brooks

35. Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

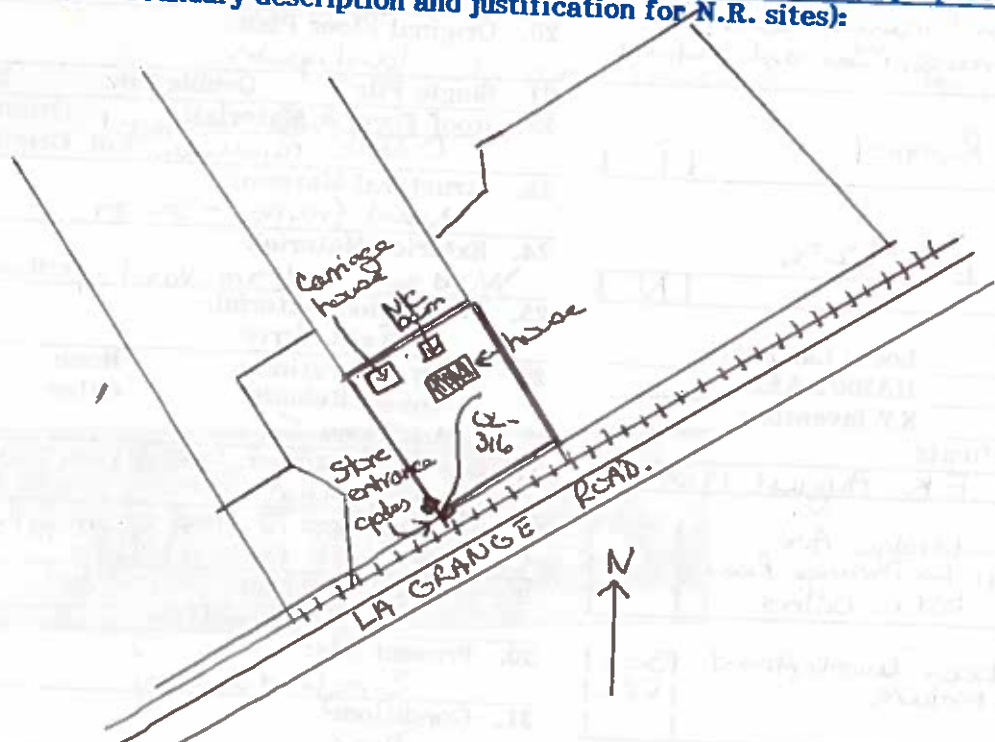
36. Date: September, 1989

37. New Survey \_\_\_\_\_ Resurvey

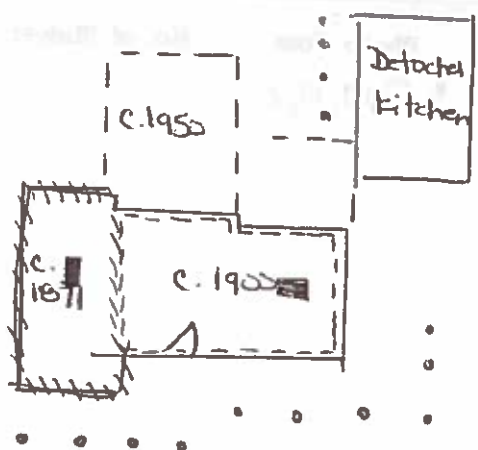
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Resource #

38. UTM Point of Primary Building: Crestwood Zone 16 Easting 632830 Northing 4242230 39. G.I.S. Mod. [ ]  
 40. Coord. Accuracy [ ]
41. UTM Points of Boundary (for N. R. eligible sites only):  
 A. ----- D. -----  
 B. ----- E. -----  
 C. ----- F. -----
42. Total Acreage in Present Property: 4.8 43. Acreage included in proposed N.R. boundary: 4.8
44. Site Plan (and boundary description and justification for N.R. sites):



5. Description and House Plan:



(See attached)

House has two large corbeled chimneys. Bargeboard trim is located in gable ends, and along front eave line.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Wooldridge Avenue - La Grange Road  
Historic District

Section number 7 Page 8

plan, weatherboarded house has a gable roof with boxed eaves and two front gable-roofed dormers with a simple curved bargeboard. A wraparound front porch with a solid frieze and simple wooden posts protects the Craftsman-style glass front door with its Craftsman sidelights. A two-story polygonal bay with a separate gable roof and roofline brackets is located on each side. Windows are four and five vertical panes over one double hang sash; the foundation is limestone clock. A recently constructed garage at the rear is attached to the house by a roofed-over drive through. The property fronts on the railroad. The house sits far back on its informally landscaped lot.

The Haywood family, who owned the house into the 1940s, are believed to have built it about 1910.

NC 10. Lot. La Grange Road. A lot which lies between properties #9 and (site) #11. A driveway on the property leads to a non-historic house set far back from the road on a portion of the property that has not been included in the district.

OL-316 11. Rush-Gheens House. 13608 La Grange Road. c. 1871/c. 1900. A large C two-story L-plan house with weatherboard siding and no apparent style. The basic Victorian house has a steeply pitched gable roof with a gable-roofed dormer on the front and decorative shinglework in the front facing wing. A full-width front porch with Tuscan columns wraps around the north side. Windows are four-over-four double hung sash; the foundation is fieldstone. A two-story detached kitchen wing at the northwest rear corner has been connected to the house and a large non-historic one-story rear wing has been added. The house is located on nearly five acres of an original fourteen acre lot. A driveway lined with mature maple trees winds from massive stone entrance gates to the front of the house. The house is currently vacant and the property somewhat overgrown, but many large trees and flowering shrubs still dot the acreage.

The earliest portion of this house is thought to have been built by J. W. Rush about 1871. After changing hands a number of times, the property was purchased in 1897 by Mary F. And Charles W. Gheens who are probably responsible for the large addition that today forms the major part of the house. Gheens (1836-1927), co-owner of a Louisville wholesale grocery business, among other business concerns, used the property as a summer residence until 1911, after which time it again changed ownership many times.

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 9Wooldridge Avenue - La Grange Road  
Historic District

- C Carriage house/stable. Two-story, weatherboard siding. Gable roof with two front gable-roofed dormers and raised seam metal finish. Very deteriorated. c. 1900.
- NC Barn. Concrete block. Gambrel roof. 1960s.
- OL-317 12. Gheens-Becker House. La Grange Road. c. 1870. A large two-story Italianate house that retains sufficient historic character to contribute to the district despite the loss of a front tower and the application of aluminum siding. The property is also significant for its outbuildings. This asymmetrical-plan house has a multi-gabled roof with bargeboards and sawwork trim around the eaves. The projecting front wing has a two-story polygonal front bay. The square entrance tower was removed above the main roofline after a 1974 tornado. A front wraparound porch has turned posts and a spindlework frieze; a rear wraparound porch has a hipped roof and simple post supports. Windows are four-over-four double hung sash; attic windows are round-arched.
- C The house sits on a twenty-six acre property landscaped with large shade trees, pines, and hollies. A winding drive lined with maples leads from stone entrance gates to the house. A number of outbuildings are situated at the rear.
- The construction date of this house is not known with certainty. A large house is indicated for this property on an 1879 map suggesting it may have been built in the early 1870s by a group of real estate investors headed by Jonas Rhorer. The "Building Association", the group's name in deeds, purchased the property in 1869. It is also possible that the Charles W. Gheens family who owned it from 1884 until they moved next door in 1897 built the house as their summer home. Since 1897 it has been owned by various members of the family of George Becker, a concert pianist.
- C Carriage house/barn. A complex consisting of two historic buildings connected by a non-historic open shed area. Carriage house (c. 1880) is two-story and weatherboarded. Gable roof with central cross gable has central cupola, bargeboard trim, raised seam metal finish. One-story barn (c. 1900) has gable roof and wide vertical board finish.
- C Servants' cottage/chicken house. Two-room gable-roofed cottage with two wall dormers trimmed with bargeboards. Shed-roofed addition. c. 1880.
- C Garage. Large 5-bay concrete block building with gable roof topped by cupola. Concrete block buttresses on exterior. c. 1930.
- C Pump house. Wood framed and metal with poured concrete foundation. Shed-roofed. c. 1930.

## ROMMEL HOME

LaGrange Road  
Parcel 24-6-16

- 93-507  
8-1-62 William H. and Ann H. Rommel purchased from Edith Bottoms, widow  
14 acres  
Rommels sold 9.2 acres to K & D Builders which faces Highway 22. Rommels now have 4.8 acres.
- 58-259  
10-6-38 R. R. Bottoms and wife purchased from John W. Martin and wife.
- 56-230 10-5-36 John W. and Etta Roe Martin from Attie Neel, widow Two tracts of land containing 14 acres, located between Locust Lodge and Crestwood.
- 54-420  
9-17-34 Attie Neel purchased from the estate of her husband, A. H. Neel  
Purchased by Mrs. Neel at public auction for \$2500.
- 46-279  
3-31-24 A. H. Neel and Attie Neel purchased from E. A. Barnett and Pearle  
Two tracts containing 14 acres - \$4000.
- 42-61  
4-2-18 E. A. Barnett purchased from John M. and Blanche Miller  
14 acres
- 41-545  
1-9-18 John M. Miller purchased from John R. and Clara Watson (John Watson inherited from Sallie F. Watson)  
14 acres
- 38-61  
10-16-11 Sarah F. Watson, wife of Joseph B. Watson, purchased from Charles W. and M. F. Gheens  
\$4000.
- 30-400  
9-22-1897 Mary F. Gheens, wife of C. W., purchased from George and Catherine C. Becker  
14 acres - \$4000.
- 30-360  
8-26-1897 Catherine C. Becker, wife of George, purchased from W. B. Gray and Kate Gray.  
\$3750.

29-402

10-1-1895 Kate Gray, wife of W. B., purchased from William M. and Angie G. Vaughan two tracts - purchased for a lot and improvements in Louisville plus \$2059.

27-198

6-24-1891 Angie G. Vaughan, wife of William M., purchased from estate of Ann Mary Coleman \$3025 (Tract I)

27-200

6-24-1891 Angie G. Vaughan purchased from Patrick and Florence C. Joyes approximately 4 acres (Tract II) Joyes had acquired this land as part of 60 acres on 10-18-1884 from Sally L. Mark, widow of S. S. Mark

W-54

10-5-1883 Ann Mary Coleman purchased from J. W. and M. F. Rush 9 acres (Tract I) - \$1500.

O-442

6-12-1871 J. W. Rush purchased from Enoch and Louise Lockhart 8 acres - \$2650.

P-444

9-9-1872 J. W. Rush purchased from Enoch Lockhart and Louise Lockhart \$150.  
1 acre tract which lies on east side of the eight acre lot upon which the residence of Rush now stands. The acre was part of 50 acres bought on 5-29-1869 by Lockhart from David Cummins and adjoins the lot of the Building Association.

N-453

5-29-1869 Captain Enoch Lockhart purchased from David and Henrietta Cummins 40 acres - \$3000.

N-452

5-29-1869 Dr. David Cummins purchased from the estate of Ann White 40 acres including improvements and appertenances - \$2425.

H-190

10-11-1852 Mrs. Ann White, wife of Nathan White, purchased from Elija and Nancy Howser (or Houser) 40 acres and its appertenances - \$1200.

C-397

4-25-1835 Elijah Howser purchased from Rowland and Sarah Hampton of Shelby Co., Illinois 56 3/4 acres - \$454.

KENTUCKY HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

Site No. Q-P-316

1. Historic Name(s) Gray House  
 Original Owner Weedon Gray

2. Present Name

3. Location  
13608 La Grange Rd. 4/10 mi E Woodridge

4. Owner's Name  
Mr & Mrs Wm H. Rommel

5. Owner's Address  
Box 434 Pease Valley Avoca

6. Open to Public Yes  No

7. Visible from road Yes  No

8. Ownership  
 Private   
 Local   
 State   
 Federal

9. Local Contact/Organization

22. ADD/County Q1 093

23. U.S.G.S. Quadrant (15'/75') Crestwood G.I.S. Mod. 093

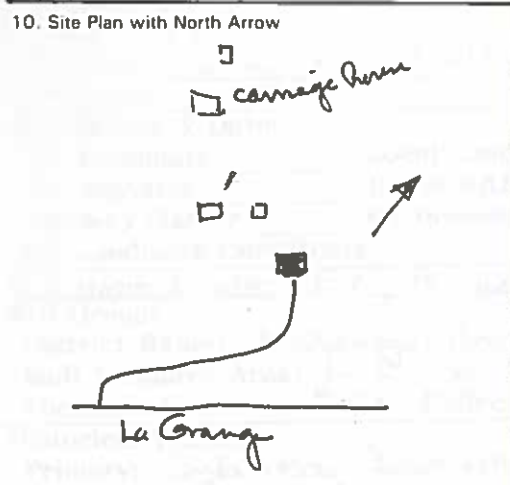
24. UTM Reference  
16 632820 4242260  
 Zone Easting Northing

25. Coordinate Accuracy

26. Prehistoric Site Object  
 Historic Site Structure  
 Building  Other

27. National Register District Name

28. Significance Evaluation



11. Architect

12. Builder

13. Date c1880 A.  B.

14. Style  
 A. Shingle style   
 B. eclectic

15. Original Use res

16. Present use res

17. Condition good

29. Status Date

National Landmark

National Register

Landmark Certificate

Kentucky Survey

Local Landmark

HABS/HAER

30. Historic Theme  
 Primary Architecture   
 Secondary   
 Other

31. Endangered Yes  No

32. Preservation Project Status

Actual Cost in \$1,000s

18. Description 1 plan  
2 story frame. weatherboard plan. Projecting gable end shingled, bargeboard, gable dormer w/ bargeboard. also along cornice. Paired windows. Door w/ sidelights. Interior brick chimney. Porch across facade, round column. Separate kitchen not attached.  
 (Continue on Back)

No. Stories 2

Single Pile  NA

Double Pile

Floor Plan L

Structural Fabric frame A.  B.

Decorative Fabric weatherboard A.  B.

Roof Form Gable



19. History Built by Weedon Gray. Bottoms lived here.

Roll No. \_\_\_\_\_

Picture No. \_\_\_\_\_

Direction \_\_\_\_\_

34. Prepared by: Carol Davis

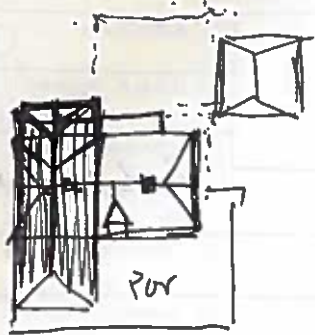
20. Significance Good example of a vernacular Queen Anne house retaining good original detail

35. Organization Jeff

36. Date 8/1

21. Source of Information Kate Smith

37. Revision Dates \_\_\_\_\_ 38. Staff Review \_\_\_\_\_



18. Carriage house has double door lower part. Roof has two triangular dormers.



*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes in the right margin, possibly describing architectural details or construction notes.]*

